

Parent & Teacher Guide

Exploring Bravery, Balance, and the Interconnected World of Nature

About This Story

In *Ollie's Serengeti Safari*, Ollie and his family journey to the plains of Tanzania, where he learns that every creature, from the smallest bushbaby to the largest elephant, plays a vital role in maintaining the Serengeti's balance.

Through his unique ability to hear and understand animals, Ollie discovers the power of courage, empathy, and respect for the natural world.

The story encourages readers to recognise that protecting wildlife is not only about saving animals, but also about safeguarding the entire web of life that sustains us all.

Themes for Discussion

1. Courage and Compassion

From Brave the Bushbaby to Helpful the Hippo, courage takes many forms, sometimes quiet, sometimes bold.

“What does it mean to be brave?”

“How can kindness be a kind of courage?”

2. The Circle of Life and Balance

Elegance the Elephant and Curious the Cheetah help children understand that balance in nature comes from cooperation and respect.

“Why is every animal on the earth important?”

“What might happen if one part of nature disappeared forever?”

3. Misunderstood Animals

Hyenas, snakes, bats, and other creatures are often feared, but, as Humorous shows, they serve vital purposes.

“How do we sometimes misunderstand other animals?”

“What could we learn from giving them a second look?”

4. Human Responsibility

Ollie's encounters remind readers that human activity, roads, pollution, and climate change, can harm or help the natural world.

“What can we do at home or school to protect the wildlife around us?”

“Why is it important to leave wild animals in peace?”

5. Interconnectedness and Respect

Grace the Giraffe teaches that every species supports one another.

“How are people and animals connected?”

“What would happen if we cared for nature the way nature cares for us?”

Activities for Home and School

1. Build a Mini Serengeti

Use recycled materials to create a classroom model of the Serengeti. Include key habitats, and label where different animals live and why they live there.

2. The Balance Game

Give each student a role, sun, grass, elephant, cheetah, rain. Remove one and see what happens to the others. It’s a simple, visual way to teach the balance of nature.

3. Bravery Wall

Encourage children to share times when they showed courage, standing up for someone, caring for an animal, or speaking the truth kindly.

4. Serengeti Soundscape

Play recordings of African wildlife for the children to guess then invite students to create their own animal calls and rhythms to represent the sounds of the savannah.

5. Letters to the Wild

Have children write letters to one Serengeti animal, thanking it for what it teaches the world. Display them as “Voices for the Wild,” on a wall in the school.

For Parents and Teachers

This story teaches that bravery is quiet most of the time. It’s the courage to care, to notice, to speak up gently.

When children begin to understand that their choices ripple outward, like the water the hippo shapes, they begin to see their power in the world.

Use *Ollie’s Serengeti Safari* to start conversations about empathy and responsibility. Ask children how they can make small changes: wasting less, planting seeds, protecting wildlife, or sharing knowledge.

Together, these small actions form a chain of kindness, and just like Ollie, your children will learn that one brave heart can make the whole Serengeti sing.